

# **REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

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ACCEPTED/FILED

OCT 232013

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

7852 Walker Drive, Suite 2007 of Greenbelt, Maryland, 2077 of phone: 301-459-7590, fax: 301-577-5575 internet: www.jsitel.com, e-mail: jsi@jsitel.com

October 11, 2013

# By Hand Delivery

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

Re:

WC Docket No. 10-90, WC Docket No. 11-42

2013 ETC Annual Report of Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative

**Study Area Code 442168** 

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative "Wes-Tex", JSI files the attached confidential and redacted versions of the FCC Form 481 ETC annual reporting information pursuant to sections 54.313 and 54.422 of the Commission's rules. Wes-Tex seeks confidential treatment under Protective Order for section 54.313(f)(2) financial information. The redacted version is also being filed this date via the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System.

Please direct any questions regarding the filing to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

John Kuykendall JSI Vice President

301-459-7590

ikuykendall@jsitel.com

cc: Charles Tyler, Telecommunications Access Policy Division (two copies, confidential)

No. of Copias rec'd 0+3 List ABCDE

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. §§ 54.313, 54.422.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Connect America Fund et al., WC Docket No. 10-90 et al., Protective Order, DA 12-1857 rel. Nov. 16, 2012 (Protective Order). 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(f)(2).

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<010>	Study Area Code	442168		
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP		ACCEPTED/FILED
<020>	Program Year	2014		
<030>	Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data	Darren Patrick		OCT 232013
<035>	Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030	(432) 756-3826 >	·	Federal Communications Commission Office of the Secretary
<039>	Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
ENTIEL	este takali (rase) vissoli (ili ili)			(check box when complete)
<100>	Service Quality improvement Reporting		(complete attached worksheet)	18888
<200>	Outage Reporting (volce)		(complete attached worksheet)	
<210>	✓ _ < check box If	no outages to report		
<310>	Unfulfilled Service Requests (voice) Detail on Attempts (voice)	0	(attach descriptive document)	
<320> <330>	Unfulfilled Service Requests (broadband)  Detail on Attempts (broadband)	<del></del>	(attach descriptive document)	
<400> <410> <420> <430> <430> <440> <440>	Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (voice Fixed Mobile Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers (broad Fixed Mobile			
<500>	Service Quality Standards & Consumer Protection	Rules Compliance	(check to indicate certification)	
<510>	442168tx510		(attached descriptive document)	
<600>	Functionality in Emergency Situations		(check to indicate certification)	
<610> <700>	4421680x610 Company Price Offerings (voice)	•	(attached descriptive document)	
<710>	Company Price Offerings (broadband)		(complete attached worksheet) (complete attached worksheet)	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1
<800>	Operating Companies and Affiliates		(complete attached worksheet)	
<900>	Tribal Land Offerings (Y/N)?	(if yes	s, complete attached worksheet)	- 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
	Voice Services Rate Comparability		(check to indicate certification)	
<1010>	Terrestrial Backhaul (Y/N)?	##	(attach descriptive document)	
<1110>	Terrestrial backridgi (1714)?	(8, uo	t, check to indicate certification) (complete ottoched worksheet)	All Later Self Later S
<1200>	Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers		(complete attached worksheet)	
<del>/</del>	Price Cap Carriers, Proceed to <u>Price Cap Additional</u> Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Pri			
<2000>			(check to indicate certification)	
<2005>			(complete attached worksheet)	
	Rate of Return Carriers, Proceed to ROR Additions	al Documentation Worksh	neet	
<3000>			(check to indicate certification)	
<3005>			(complete attached worksheet)	

THE STATE OF THE S	rvice Quality improvement Reporting illection Form	FICE Form 483 # ECMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-1988 July 2013
<010>	Study Area Code 4421	.6g
<015>	Study Area Name Was-	-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year 2	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <0	30> (432) 756-3826
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <	030> dpatrickewestex.coop
<110>	Has your company received its ETC certification from the FCC?	(yes / no ) <b>O</b>
<111>	If your answer to Line <110> is yes, do you have an existing \$54.202(a) " year plan" filed with the FCC?	5 (yes / no.) O O
<112>	If your answer to Line <111> is yes, then you are required to file a progre report, on line <112> delineating the status of your company's existing § 54.202(a) "5 year plan" on file with the FCC, as it relates to your provision voice telephony service.  Attach Five-Year Service Quality Improvement Plan or, in subsequent year your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1). If your annual progress report filed pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313(a)(1).	n of
	CETC which only receives frozen support, your progress report is only required to address voice telephony service.	
		Name of Attached Document (.pdf)
	Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached PDF, on line	
	112, contains a progress report on its five-year service quality improvement	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	plan pursuant to § 54.202(a). The information shall be submitted at the vecenter level or census block as appropriate.	wre
<113>	Maps detailing progress towards meeting plan targets	
<114>	Report how much universal service (USF) support was received	
<115>	How (USF) was used to improve service quality	
<116>	How (USF)was used to improve service coverage	
<117>	How (USF) was used to improve service capacity	
<118>	Provide an explanation of network improvement targets not met in the prior calendar year.	

	60/0985/OMB control No. 3050-0514
**************************************	

<010>	Study Area Code	442168		· .				
<015>	Study Area Name	Wes-Tex Tel Co-op						
<020>	Program Year	2014						
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick						
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person Identified in data line <030> (432) 756-3826							
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> opatrick@westex.coop							

<220>	<8>	<b1></b1>	<b2></b2>	<b3></b3>	<b4></b4>	<c1></c1>	<c2></c2>	<d>&gt;</d>	<e></e>	≪>	<g></g>	<h>&gt;</h>
:	NORS Reference Number	Outage Start Date	Outage Start Time	Outage End Date	Outage End Time	Number of Customers Affected	Total Number of Customers	911 Facilities Affected (Yes / No)	Service Outage Description (Check all that apply)	Did This Outage Affect Multiple Study Areas (Yes / No)	Service Outage Resolution	Preventative Procedures
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<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	(432) 756-3826
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop
<701>	Residential Local Service Charge Effective Date 1/1/2013	
<702>	Single State-wide Residential Local Service Charge	

)3>								Company of the Company of the State of the Company of the Company of the Company of the Company of the Company Company of the Company	
	State	Exchange (ILEC)	SAC (CETC)	Rate Type	Residential Local Service Rate	State Subscriber Line Charge	State Universal Service Fee	Mandatory Extended Area Service Charge	Total per line Rates and Fed
t	2.0.0	manding (race)	Site (CET.C)		0010.00 1100	Serve Sustainer mire energe	Just Office Service Fee	DEI VICE GIIGIGE	Total per line rates and Tel
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<010>	Study Area Code	442168		
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP		
<020>	Program Year	2014		
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick		
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <03	O> (432) 756-3826		
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <03	Op dpatrick@westex.coop		

<711>									
	State	Exchange (ILEC)	Residential Rate	State Regulated Fees	Total Rate and Fees	Broadband Service - Download Speed (Mbps)	Broadband Service - Upload Speed (Mbps)	Usage Allowance (GB)	Usage Allowance Action Taken When Limit Reached (select)
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		<del></del>		e attached sheet	<del></del>	<del> </del>		<del></del>	
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		}
<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person	USAC should contact regarding this data Daxren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Nur	nber - Number of person identified in data line <030> (432) 756-3826
<039>	Contact Email Address	Email Address of person identified in data line <030> dpatrick@westex.coop
<810>	Reporting Carrier	Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative
<811>	Holding Company	Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative
<812>	Operating Company	Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative

<813>		
Affiliates	SAC	Doing Business As Company or Brand Designation
— See :	ttached works	neet
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		는 사람들이 되었다. 그는 사람들은 사람들이 되었다. 그는 사람들이 되었다. 그는 
<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name Program Year	NES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line	
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line	
<910>	Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves	
	<b></b>	
<920>	Tribal Government Engagement Obligation	Name of Attached Document (.pdf)
		Maine of Attached Document (.pdf)
	If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for	
	each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached	
	PDF, on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal	
	government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(9) includes:	
		Select
		(Yes,No,
		NA)
<921>	Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions;	
<922>	Feasibility and sustainability planning;	
<923>	Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;	
<924>	Compliance with Rights of way processes	
<925>	Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements	
<926>	Compliance with Facilities Siting rules	
<927>	Compliance with Environmental Review processes	
<928>	Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes	
<929>	Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.	

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<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	(432) 756-3826
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrickewestex.coop
<1120>	Please check this box to confirm no terrestrial backhaul options exist within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)	
<1130>	Please check this box to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(G)	

<010>	Study Area Code Study Area Name	44216 WES-1	8 EX TEL CO-OP					·
<020>	Program Year	2014						
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Da	rren Patrick					
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data li	ne <030> (4	(32) 756-3826					
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data i	ine <030> 🌣	atrick@westex.coop					
<1210>	Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans		9tx1210		·		<del></del>	
	,	Name	of attached document	t (.pdf)		*		
<1220>	Link to Public Website	НТТР						
	"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to \$ 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:	: :						
<1221>	Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers,							
<1222>	Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan,							
<1223>	Additional charges for toil calls, and rates for each such plan.							

di akomenya		하고 전에 됐습니다. 그리는 네트를				
1000	'유리'를 하는 말이 보는 이 얼마 있다면서 아니라 보는 다른 말이 되었다.					
						,
		142168				
<010>	Study Area Code	<del></del>				
<015>	Study Area Name	res-tex tel co-op				
<020>	Program Year	014				
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	arren Patrick				
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030>	(432) 756-3826				
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person Identified in data line <030:	dpatrickewestex.coop				
CHECK to	e boxes below to note compliance as a recipient of incremental Connect Am	erica Phase I support, frozen High Co	st support, High Cost support to	offset access charge redu	ctions, and Connect Ame	rica Phase II
	support as set forth in 47 CFR § 54.313(b),(c),(d					
		•				

	Incremental Connect America Phase I reporting		
<2010>	2nd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(1))		
<2011>	3rd Year Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(b)(2))		
	Price Cap Carrier Receiving Frozen Support Certification (47 CFR § 54.312(a))		
<2012>	2013 Frozen Support Certification		
<2013>	2014 Frozen Support Certification		
<2014>	2015 Frozen Support Certification		
<2015>	2016 and future Frozen Support Certification		
<2016>	Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support (47 CFR § 54.313(d))  Certification Support Used to Build Broadband		
	Connect America Phase II Reporting (47 CFR § 54.313(e))		
<2017>	3rd year Broadband Service Certification		
<2018>	5th year Broadband Service Certification		
<2019>	Interim Progress Certification	1	
<2020>	Please check the box to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 2021,		
	contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (e)(3)(ii), as a recipient		
	of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of		
	community anchor institutions to which began providing access to broadband		
	service in the preceding calendar year.		
<2021>	Interim Progress Community Anchor Institutions	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	

	and the second		
_			<del></del>
<010>	Study Area Code 442168		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
<015> <020>	Study Area Name W2S-TEX Program Year 2014	TEL CO-OP	<del></del>
<030>		rren Patrick	
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person Identified in data line <030>	(432) 756-3826	
<b>4039</b> >	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030>	dpatrick@westex.coop	
CHECK t	he boxes below to note compliance on its five year service quality plan (pursu		
	CFR § 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that	the information reported on this form and in the documents attach	ed below is accurate.
	Progress Report on S Year Plan		
(3010)	Milestone Certification (47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(f)	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	
	Please check this box to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3012.		
	contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313 (f)(1)(ii), as a		
(3011)	recipient of CAF Phase II support shall provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which began providing		
	access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.		
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
(3012) (3013)		Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	(Yes/No)
(3014)			(Yes/No)
	Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017,		
	contains the required information pursuant to § \$4.313(f)(2) compliance requires:		
(3015)	Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for		
(3023)	Telecommunications Borrowers)		
(3016)	PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		<b>—</b>
(3017)	If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual		
(3018)	report and all required documentation if the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	✓ (Yes/No)
(3020)	If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to		res/NO)
	confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains		
	•		<u></u>
(3019)	Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report In a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications	1	
10.000	PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows	1	<b>~</b>
(3020)			
(3021)	Management letter issued by the independent certified public accountant		
	that performed the company's financial audit.		
	If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission, on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2),		
	contains:	1	
	Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an		
(3022)	independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications		
	Borrowers,		
(3023)	Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant		
(3024)	Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.		
(3025)	PDF of Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows		
(3026)	Attach the worksheet listing required information	Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information	442168tx3026
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<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	NES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2014
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<039>	Contact Email Addre	ss - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> dpatrickowestex.coop

# TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients						
certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support ecipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate.						
Name of Reporting Carrier:						
Signature of Authorized Officer:		Date				
Printed name of Authorized Officer:						
Title or position of Authorized Officer:	<u></u>	·				
Telephone number of Authorized Officer:						
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier:	Filing Due Date for this form:					
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.						

12 (A 4 9)		
<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	WES-TEX TEL CO-OP
<020>	Program Year	2014
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<035>	Contact Telephone Number - N	umber of person identified in data line <030> (432) 756-3826
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email A	address of person Mentified in data line <030> dpatrickswestex.coop

#### TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

#### 

# TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier						
i, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate.						
Name of Reporting Carrier: WES-TEX TEL CO-OP						
Name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: John Staurulakis						
Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent; CERTIFIED ONLINE Date	10/14/2013					
Printed name of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: Darla Parker						
Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent Manager						
Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: 512/338-0473						
Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: 442168 Filing Due Date for this form: 10/15/2013						
Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001.						

Attachments

<010>	Study Area Code	442168
<015>	Study Area Name	Wes-tex tel co-op
<020>	Program Year	2014
<030>	Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data	Darren Patrick
<035>	Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <03	0> (432) 756-3826
<039>	Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <0	30> dpatrick@westex.coop
<810>	Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative	
<811>	Holding Company Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative	
<812>	Operating Company Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative	

<813>		
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# Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative

# Response to Line 510 - Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules Compliance

In establishing this certification in its 2005 ETC Order,<sup>1</sup> the FCC found that an ETC must make "a specific commitment to objective measures to protect consumers." <sup>2</sup> The FCC found that for wireless ETCs, compliance with CTIA's Consumer Code for Wireless Service would satisfy this requirement" and that the sufficiency of other commitments would be considered on a case-by-case basis. <sup>3</sup> In this context, the FCC stated, "to the extent a wireline or wireless ETC applicant is subject to consumer protection obligations under state law, compliance with such laws may meet our requirement."

Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative ("Company") hereby certifies that it complies with applicable service quality standards and consumer protection rules under the Texas Administrative Code, Title 16, Part II, as established by the Public Utility Commission of Texas. These obligations include, but are not limited to, the following: (1) filing a Local Exchange Tariff which discloses rates, terms and conditions of service to customers pursuant to Subchapter J requirements in Sections 26.201-26.230; (2) adherence to state consumer protection requirements governing telephone providers as identified in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, Report and Order, FCC 05-46 (rel. Mar. 17, 2005) ("2005 ETC Order").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Id. at para, 28.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Id. The FCC noted that under the CTIA Consumer Code, wireless carriers agree to: "(1) disclose rates and terms of service to customers; (2) make available maps showing where service is generally available; (3) provide contract terms to customers and confirm changes in service; (4) allow a trial period for new service; (5) provide specific disclosures in advertising; (6) separately identify carrier charges from taxes on billing statements; (7) provide customers the right to terminate service for changes to contract terms; (8) provide ready access to customer service; (9) promptly respond to consumer inquiries and complaints received from government agencies; and (10) abide by policies for protection of consumer privacy." Id. at n. 71.

And at n. 72.

Subchapter B, in Sections 26.21-26.37; and (3) service quality standards requirements as identified in Subchapter C, Sections 26.51 -26.57.

#### Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative

# Response to Line 610 - Ability to Function in Emergency Situations

Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative ("Company") hereby certifies that it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 47, Part 54, Subpart C, §54.202(a)(2)<sup>1</sup> and the Texas Administrative Code. The Company's network is designed to remain functional in emergency situations without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations as required by Section 54.202(a)(2). The Company can change call routing translations as needed to reroute traffic around damaged facilities. Changing call routing translations also allows the Company to manage traffic spikes throughout its network, as emergency situations require.

Specifically, the Company is able to function under emergency operations in accordance with Public Utility Commission of Texas Substantive Rules §26.51

Reliability of Operations of Telecommunications Providers and §26.52 Emergency

Operations which include obligations for continuity of service and emergency operations planning and service provision capability for dominant carriers. Any central office not equipped with permanently installed standby generators contains as a minimum four hours of battery reserve without voltage falling below the level required for proper operation of all equipment. In addition, all central offices without installed emergency

Section 54.202(a)(2) requires ETCs that are designated by the Commission to "demonstrate its ability to remain functional in emergency situations, including a demonstration that it has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations."

power facilities have a mobile power unit available which can be delivered and connected on short notice.

# Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

# Rates, Terms and Conditions for Lifeline Service

(Response to Form 481, Line 1210)

Local exchange service rates and charges as specified below are for basic local exchange service, including Tone Dialing Service, and facilities only. The rates for other ancillary services not specifically shown below are presented in Wes-Tex Telephone Cooperative's tariff(s) on file with the Public Utility Commission of Texas. Unless otherwise specified, the rates and charges quoted below are for a period of one month, payable in advance and provide unlimited flat rate calling within the local exchange calling scope.

Residential Local Exchange Access Line Rates<sup>(1)(2)</sup>:

				es. EAS
Exchange Name	R	-1 Rate	(	Charge
Ackerly	\$	14.00	\$	-
Coahoma	\$	10.72	\$	-
Garden City	\$	11.84	\$	3.50
Lenorah	\$	14.00	\$	-
Lomax	\$	12.15	\$	3.50
Luther	\$	14.00	\$	-
Sand Springs	\$	10.72	\$	-
Saint Lawrence	\$	11.84	\$	3,50
Vincent	\$	11.84	\$	3.50
West Stanton	\$	12.15	\$	3.50

<sup>(1)</sup> Above listed fees do not include mandatory taxes, fees and surcharges, including, but not limited to Texas Universal Service Fund charges, 9-1-1 fees, and municipal franchise fees.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>(2)</sup>Qualified Lifeline customers are eligible for Lifeline credits or discounts as outlined in the attached Lifeline tariff.

SECTION 4

STANTON, TEXAS

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#### MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

#### LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

#### III. LIFELINE PROGRAM

The Lifeline Program is a retail local service offering designed to make telephone service available at reduced rates to qualifying low-income customers.

# General

- A qualifying low-income customer subscribing to the Lifeline Program shall receive federal and state reductions to their monthly tariffed residential local exchange access line rate. When a Lifeline customer subscribes to a package of services, those same reductions will apply to that portion of the package rate that is for basic network service.
- Nothing in this section shall prohibit a customer who is otherwise eligible for the Lifeline Program from obtaining and using telecommunications equipment and services designed to aid such customer in utilizing qualifying telecommunications services.
- 3. Lifeline Program reductions do not apply to surcharges, taxes, long distance service, 976 and other information related telecommunications services, and optional services such as custom calling features. Customers may obtain these services, where available, at their discretion.
- The Lifeline Program rate reductions do not apply to service connection charges.

J. R. Wilson Effective: April 2, 2012

Title: Manager

SECTION 4

STANTON, TEXAS

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#### MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

#### LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

# III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

# A. General (Continued)

- 5. The Cooperative may not disconnect the service of a Lifeline Program customer for the non-payment of toll charges. However, the Cooperative reserves the right to implement toll blocking, at no charge, if the customer incurs a significant balance of unpaid toll bills. The Cooperative will inform the customer, by direct mail, of this change to their service due to the customer's non-payment of toll charges. Upon the customer's payment of all outstanding toll charges, the Cooperative shall remove mandatory toll blocking at no charge.
- 6. Upon subscribing to the Lifeline Program, a customer will be offered a subscription, at no charge, to toll blocking service (in exchanges where technically available) which denies the customer access to the long distance telecommunications network; however, the customer is under no obligation to accept the subscription to toll blocking upon initial subscription to the Lifeline Program.
- 7. The Lifeline Program rate reductions will not be available on a retroactive basis unless approved by the Public Utility Commission of Texas or the Low-Income Discount Administrator (LIDA).

# B. Designated Lifeline Program Services

The Cooperative shall offer voice telephony services that provide the following functionalities as designated Lifeline Program services:

- 1. Voice grade access to the public switched network or its functional equivalent
- 2. Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge to the customer
- 3. Access to emergency services
- 4. Toll blocking service

By: J. R. Wilson Effective: April 2, 2012 Title: Manager

Wes-tex telephone cooperative, inc.

SECTION 4

STANTON, TEXAS

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# MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

#### LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

# III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

# C. Eligibility Requirement

1. Qualifying Low-Income (Eligible) Customer Criteria

An eligible customer shall be defined as an individual whose annual household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines or in whose household resides a person who receives or has a child who receives benefits from at least one of the following programs:

a. Medicaid

b. Food Stamps (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)

c. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

- d. Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
- e. Low-Income Heat and Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- f. Health benefits coverage under the state Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- g. National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program
- h. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families

The Lifeline Program rate reductions will be provided to each eligible customer. The Low-Income Discount Administrator (LIDA) will provide a list of eligible customers to the Cooperative each month.

#### 2. Obligations of the Customer

a. Customers whose annual household income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty guidelines or who participate in FPHA or LIHEAP programs may self-enroll for Lifeline Program benefits by completing an application form and returning it to LIDA. LIDA will send a blank application upon customer request. LIDA can be reached at 1-866-4LITEUP. Current customers receiving benefits under Medicaid, Food Stamps, SSI or CHIP will be subject to the Lifeline Program automatic enrollment procedures as provided by the LIDA unless they provide a written request to the LIDA to be excluded from the Lifeline Program.

b. A customer who is eligible for the Lifeline Program but does not have telephone service at the time the LIDA provides its eligibility list to the Cooperative, shall be responsible for initiating a request for the Lifeline Program from the Cooperative.

By: J. R. Wilson

Title: Manager

Effective: June 1, 2012

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SECTION 4

STANTON, TEXAS

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#### MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

#### LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

# III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

# C. Eligibility Requirement (Continued)

- 3. Obligations of the Cooperative
- a. LIDA will provide a list of eligible customers to the Cooperative on a monthly basis. Upon receipt of the list, the Cooperative shall begin reduced billing for those customers in accordance with the terms of the LIDA's procedures included in the LIDA Guide.

#### 4. Discontinuance of Service

- a. Discontinuance of Lifeline Discounts for customers automatically enrolled. The eligibility period for automatically enrolled customers is the length of their enrollment in Texas Health and Human Services Commission (THHSC) benefits plus a period of 60 days for renewal. Automatically enrolled customers will have an opportunity to renew their THHSC benefits or self-enrollment with LIDA upon the expiration of their automatic enrollment.
- b. Discontinuance of Lifeline Discounts for customers who have self-enrolled. Individuals not receiving benefits through THHSC programs, but who have met Lifeline income qualifications, are eligible to receive the Lifeline Discount for seven months, which includes a period of 60 days during which the customer may renew their eligibility with LIDA for an additional seven months.

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By: J. R. Wilson Title: Manager

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SECTION 4

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#### MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

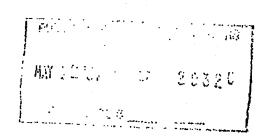
#### LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

#### III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

- C. Eligibility Requirement (Continued)
  - 4. Discontinuance of Service (Continued)

# D. Deposit and Credit Requirements

- 1. The Cooperative shall be prohibited from charging a service deposit in order to initiate the Lifeline Program if the eligible customer voluntarily elects to receive toll blocking.
- 2. The Cooperative may charge a service deposit if the eligible customer denies subscription to toll blocking upon subscribing to the Lifeline Program.
- 3. In instances where the Cooperative may require a service deposit, the same credit verification procedures and deposit regulations used for all applicants who apply for service with the Cooperative are also applicable to eligible customers for the Lifeline Program.



By: J. R. Wilson Title: Manager

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SECTION 4

STANTON, TEXAS

2nd Revised Page 14 Replacing 1st Revised Page 14

#### MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

# LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

# III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

#### E. Service Connection Charges

- 1. Service connection charges do not apply to eligible customers with existing, qualifying service converting to the Lifeline Program.
  - 2. Service connection charges do apply when:
- a. Existing eligible customers request additional non-qualifying services at the time Lifeline program reduced billing is initiated.
- b. New customers (those without existing local exchange access service) eligible for the Lifeline Program establish qualifying service.
- c. Customers make subsequent moves or changes after initial connection to the Lifeline Program.

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By: J. R. Wilson Title: Manager

Effective: April 2, 2012

SECTION 4

STANTON, TEXAS

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# MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

#### LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

#### III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

# F. Lifeline Program Rate Reduction

# 1. Implementation

The Cooperative shall provide reduced billing to all Lifeline Program eligible customers within its service area in accordance with the Commission's Substantive rules

In instances where a customer inquires about participation in the Lifeline Program, the Cooperative shall provide contact information for LIDA.

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By: J. R. Wilson Title: Manager

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SECTION 4

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#### MEMBER SERVICES TARIFF

# LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

# III. LIFELINE PROGRAM (Continued)

- F. Lifeline Program Rate Reduction (Continued)
  - 2. Amounts

The Cooperative shall apply Lifeline Program rate reductions, per eligible customer, as described below.

Monthly Rate Reduction

a. Federal Reduction applied to
Federal Subscriber Line
Charge and Residential
Local Exchange Access Line
Charge
54.403

Federal Reduction applied to
Federal Subscriber Line
Federal Reduction Access Line
Federal Reduct

b. Maximum State Reduction to
Residential Local Exchange
Access Line Rate \$3.50

By: J. R. Wilson

Title: Manager

Effective: April 2, 2012

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# **REDACTED - FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION**

# WES-TEX TELEPHONE COOPERATIVE, INC. (SAC 442168) ATTACHMENT - LINE 3017 ATTACHMENT REDACTED IN ENTIRETY